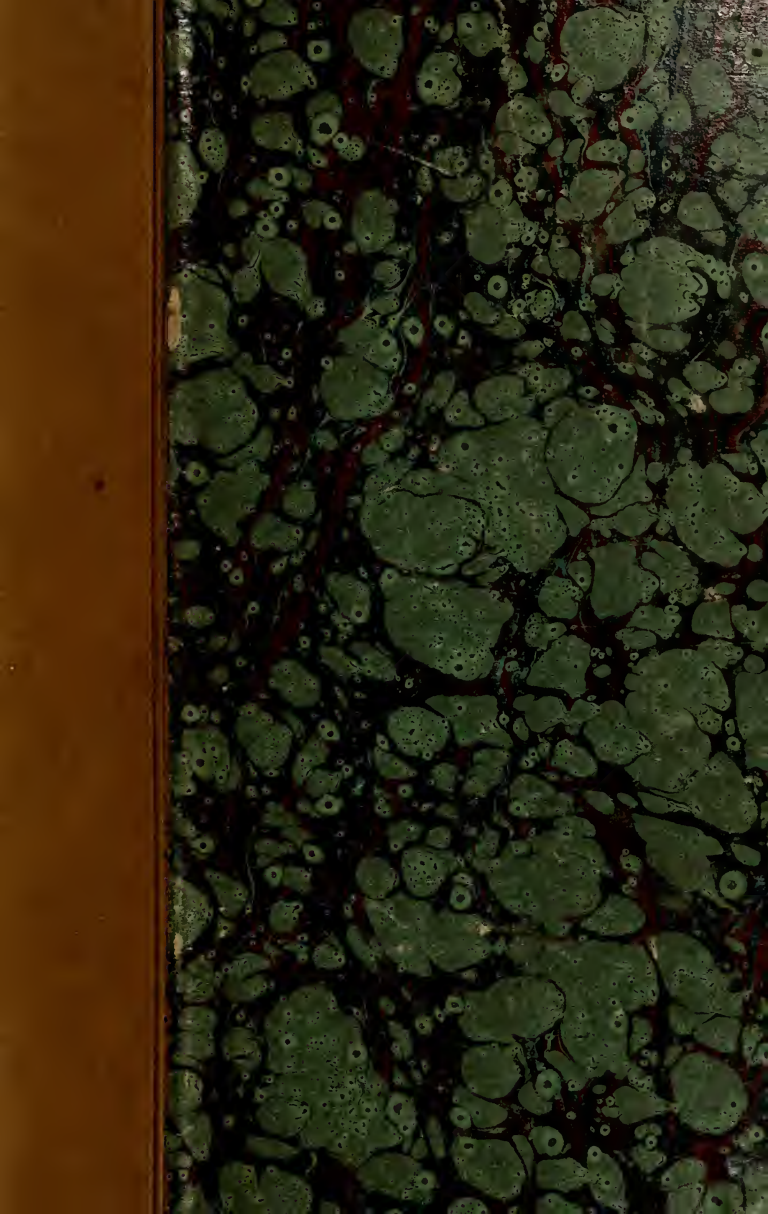
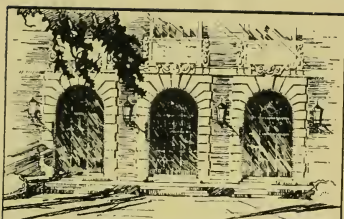






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A LETTER
FROM THE
BISHOP OF COLOMBO
TO
THE MEMBERS
OF THE
Ceylon Missionary Association.

BRIGHTON:
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77, NORTH STREET.

TO THE MEMBERS
OF THE
Ceylon Missionary Association.

Colombo,

St. Andrew's Day, 1880.

DEAR FRIENDS AND FELLOW-WORKERS IN CHRIST.

This must be but a short letter indeed, for of the fortnight allotted to writing the annual letter, the whole has been occupied by a slight fever, and the great weakness which has followed it. Even now I write with difficulty.

The chief event of 1880 for our Church has been the complete, so far as we can see, restoration of good will between the Church Missionaries and the rest of the Church. Our troubles seem really to be healed. No one knows exactly how it came about, and there has been very little if any balancing of gains and losses, so to speak. The one feeling is of sincere thankfulness that God has enabled us again to work together.

I suppose the second place must be given to the visit of the so-called "Theosophists," an event which created much excitement among the Buddhists, and stimulated them to considerable activity. An American Colonel, a Russian Countess (a very aged lady), and one or two others

formed the "Theosophists" force, and went over the island lecturing. They taught nothing positive, though they enrolled members, and collected a considerable sum for the purposes of the Society. But they everywhere abused Christianity, repeating the worn out objections; and whenever they passed a Buddhist Dagoba or Priest, did homage, and offered gifts. Thus they persuaded the populace that they were Buddhists, and the sight of white people worshipping Buddhist priests, &c., was a testimony to Buddhism which, to the ignorant, was irresistible. They urged the Buddhists not to send their children to Mission Schools, but to start Buddhist Schools. In many places this has been done, and although probably every such School will collapse within a year, they have done a good deal of harm to Mission Schools for the time, by taking away a large proportion of the children; sometimes, just before the Inspector's visit, sometimes for several months together. Much has been lost in the way of Government grants by this means. The effect is already dying out (the "Theosophists" came in May and June), but it is enough to show what terrible harm is done by European patronage of Buddhism. One of the weapons used by the Colonel was that misleading book, Arnold's "Light of Asia."

In the excitement and temptations of the time the faith of some of the new converts, especially of some young men, came out nobly.

In the account of expenditure it will be seen that a great deal has been spent on Female Education. This does not in fact represent nearly all I have laid out for that purpose, and I would ask for much increased assistance for it, as I am now convinced that Girls' Schools will

seldom be self-supporting—the higher are generally very expensive—and yet that they are well worth the outlay.

A most encouraging event has been the return of “Nathanael,” that converted Buddhist priest, who after some time in the Kalutara Clergy house, became restless, and went away, and we lost all sight of him. Mr. Duthy traced him out, and went and found him, in a remote jungle-place, studying Pali in the class of a famous priest. He had been living among Buddhists, and dissembling his Christianity, but assures me he never ceased to pray (chiefly that we might find him out—he would not *come* back), and that he did no Buddhist act. Now he is in St. Thomas’ College, earning his English lessons by teaching Sinhalese ; and I think he is very thankful to be among Christians again.

I have been unable to spend anything at Navatcudar, owing to the complete collapse of Mr. Somanader’s health, both mental and physical. It will be a long time before he can work again, if ever. There is a Catechist at the place, but I cannot do anything through him, and have not yet been able to go there myself. I fear I may have to report much disappointment about this Mission.

We are all beginning to look forward to the Metropolitan’s visit, in February next. When that is over I may perhaps try to write a short account of it, to supplement this poor little letter. Earnestly entreating the continuance of your prayers,

I remain, Dear Friends,

Yours faithfully in Christ,

R. S. COLOMBO.

BISHOP OF COLOMBO'S SPECIAL FUND.

GENERAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS,

From July, 1879, to December, 1880.

	£	s.	d.
Miss Bellamy	10	0	0
Miss Boone	0	2	6
Mrs. J. Beale-Browne	1	0	0
G. Burns, Esq.	3	0	0
Mrs. Burrows	0	5	0
Rev. J. Chapman	1	1	0
Rev. E. G. Copleston	3	3	0
Miss L. C. Copleston	5	0	0
Miss H. Copleston	0	10	0
Mrs. R. E. Copleston	15	0	0
Miss S. Copleston... ..	5	0	0
Miss Blanche Elliott	3	0	0
Mrs. Ferrier	10	0	0
Hon. Louisa Fremantle	0	10	0
Miss Hart... ..	0	10	0
Mrs. W. J. Harris	0	10	0
Miss Hillersdon (2 years)	1	0	0
Miss S. Hillersdon (2 years)	1	0	0
Miss E. J. Hornidge	1	0	0
Per Miss G. Hornidge	2	1	0
Mrs. Jeaffreson	1	0	0
Miss E. Lenny	0	3	0
Rev. R. Moberly... ..	2	0	0
Rev. E. L. Palmer	1	1	0
Mrs. Rawnsley	1	1	0
Rev. T. and Mrs. Rivington	10	0	0
W. Rivington, Esq.	5	5	0
Miss Rivington (2 years)	0	10	0
G. Robinson, Esq.	5	0	0
Miss Shergold	1	0	0
Mrs. A. Smith	0	2	6
Miss F. Smith	0	2	6
Miss A. Smith	0	5	0
Miss C. Smith	0	5	0
Miss Watson (2 years)	1	0	0
F. Withers, Esq.... ..	1	1	0
Mrs. Wiseman	0	1	0
Per "The Net" (1879)	2	0	0
BOXES :—			
Mrs. Bland	0	14	9
Miss M. Copleston	1	0	0
Rev. W. M. Richardson... ..	0	16	7

£98 0 10

BALANCE SHEET — July, 1879, to December, 1880.

RECEIPTS.

	Rs. cts.
Balance in hand at Ceylon, as per last Report ...	588'00
Subscriptions, &c., in hand July 1879, £43 16s. 6d. ...	539'30
Special for Navatcudar, £45 7s. 6d... ..	558'45
General Subscriptions, &c., from July 1879, to December, 1880, £98 os. 10d.	1206'65
Offertories :	
St. Mary's, Barnes, 1879, £3 17s. 3d.	47'50
March Gibbon, for Kandy, 1879, £24 14s. ...	304'00
S. John's College, Oxford, Jan., 1880, £4 15s. ...	58'45
" Dec., 1880, £5.....	61'50
Per "The Net," for School at Kandy, £4 13s. 6d.	57'50
S. Mary's School, Kidderminster, for Child in Buona Vista Orphanage (half year to December, 1880), £6	73'80
Mrs. Mooyart Dennison, for Ratnapura, £2	24'60
Mrs. Bodley, for St. Thomas' College, £5	61'50

Rs. 3581.25
Due to Treasurer ... 43'32

Rs. 3624'57

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs. cts.
Paid to Ven. the Archdeacon	304'00
" for Industrial School at Kandy	57'50
" S. Thomas' College	61'50
Ratnapura	24'60
" Buona Vista Mission	81'22
" Rev. P. Marks for Orphan Child	73'80
" S. James' Tamil Girls' School, 18 m.	240'00
" Kurunegala High Glass Girls' School (1880)..	750'00
" Batticaloa Church	500'00
" P. Munamulle (student), 12 m.	240'00
To purchase site for Church at Matara	533'50
Grants made for various purposes *	200'00
Reserve Fund for Navatcudar	558'45

Rs. 3624'57

* The particulars of this expenditure have not yet been received, but the objects to which it has been devoted are similar to those mentioned above.





